Principal’s Message

Two special guests are visiting Narrabri Public School this Wednesday 15th October. Well-known children’s author, Paul Collins, is conducting some writer’s workshops for students in Years 4-6. We also have talented children’s book illustrator, Marjory Gardner, coming along to work with our younger students.

Paul Collins is a popular Australian writer who specialises in science fiction and fantasy. He has written many books for children. He is best known for his sci-fi and fantasy books such as The Quentaris Chronicles.

In addition to novels, Collins has written over thirty chapter books, around thirty non-fiction hardcovers for the education market (published both in Australia and the USA), and two collections of stories.

Marjory will be working with students from Years 1 to 3 in the school hall. She plans to talk about her life as an artist and give them some tips on how to improve their own drawing skills.

Our school will also be receiving $400 worth of free books from the sponsors of this visit, Whitehaven Coal. However, Paul and Marjorie are bringing along some books for sale to students. They’d love to sign any books children might purchase on the day.

Star of the Week

Paul Collins

Paul Collins is an author and publisher. You can take a gander at his stuff at fordstreetpublishing.com and paulcollins.com.au and quentaris.com

What’s Paul’s story? He was born on Canvey Island (UK). His family emigrated to NZ when he was nine and at eighteen he moved here to Australia.

Why does he write? Paul says there’s a subconscious need to write. He feels a bit frustrated if he’s not working on something. Right now, though, Paul says he doesn’t get much of a chance to write, so he’s frustrated pretty much all of the time!

In 1995 Paul finally sold a children’s novel, The Wizard’s Torment, to HarperCollins. Since then, he’s had about 130 books published and over 140 short stories. What made him decide to write children’s books? “We all have our little niche in life. Most sadly don’t find it,” he said. Paul’s latest book – The Sightly Skewed Life of Toby Chrysler – is a whacky romp into the life of a teen whose world seems to fall apart.

What else does he have a fondness for in life? Apart from publishing and writing – keeping fit in the gym interests him. He also has his beautiful dogs, kelpie Jack and heeler Molly. He loves his house too. It is a bluestone built in 1861. Paul sometimes feels like he need never leave it, but that would make him a hermit!

What five words best sum him up? Honest, hard-working, dog-tragic, loyal, punctual.
The Week Ahead

**Week 2**

**Monday 13th October**
- Relay Training - No 2 Oval @ 1.00
- Awards Assembly – Primary COLA @ 3.00

**Tuesday 14th October**
- P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30–3.45pm

**Wednesday 15th October**
- Day Branch P&C Meeting @ 9.30am
- Jump Start K-2
- School Banking
- State Athletics in Sydney
- Authors Visiting Yr 1-6 Workshops
- Night Branch P&C Meeting - 7.00pm at Bowlo

**Thursday 16th October**
- Jump Start K-2
- State Athletics in Sydney
- Silver Award Ceremony – school hall @ 11.20
- **3/4A Assembly @ 2.40**
- P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30 –3.45pm

*Please not change of date for this assembly*

**Friday 17th October**
- State Athletics in Sydney
- Training Session for School PBL Team

**Saturday 18th October**
- Staff Development Day – “Positive Behaviour For Learning” (PBL) with Alice Cairns

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**Week 3**

**Monday 20th October**
- PICSE Awards Assembly – Primary COLA @ 2.40

**Tuesday 21st October**
- NPS leadership Photo Day
- P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30–3.45pm

**Wednesday 22nd October**
- Jump Start K-6
- School Banking
- 1A Assembly @ 2.40

**Thursday 23rd October**
- Jump Start K-6
- Bronzy Party @ 11.20
- Silver Award Ceremony – school hall @ 11.20
- P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30 –3.45pm
- Federation Farm Meeting

**Friday 24th October**
- PSSA Cricket v Ben Venue

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Garden Expo 2014

Another successful Craft and Garden Expo was held at school last Saturday. Yes, gardens took the centre stage. The weather couldn’t have been better and our school gardens looked a real treat. Not only that, all our classes had shown great ingenuity in turning old boots into masterpieces for the school’s garden theme competition. Congratulations teachers and kids!

As usual, of course, there were some wonderful stalls, craft displays and yummy food available. The canteen and Lions Club BBQ did themselves proud. And it was great seeing Mr Jollow cooking sausages and steaks and catching up with his many friends here at NPS too!

As you can see from the photos, there was colour, fun and excitement to be had. Of course, awards were handed out to outstanding gardeners from across the local area. Narrabri Public School picked a couple of prizes for “Best Commercial Garden” and “Best Edible Garden”. Gardening Australia personality Angus Stewart was here too!

The children weren’t left out either thanks to our SRC representatives who arrived early to help organise the fabulous “Kids Corner.” They were, of course, ably assisted by Mrs White, Mrs McLeish and Mrs Hancock.

This special area offered children fun activities, fake tattoos, table tennis and face painting. They raised $200 on the day for our SRC Fun Day – a wonderful effort!

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3/4A – who else would do Barbie Boots but Mrs Allison
Mrs Tame receiving an award on behalf of NPS

1A

School Captain Francesca Smith working hard for our SRC at Kids Corner. A great role-model always!

Jump Start This Week

Wednesday sees the start of the Jump Start program for Grades K-2.

Jump Start involves students “moving up” for the morning to the year above their current grade e.g. Kindergarten children get an opportunity to see what’s it’s like being in Year 1 with Mrs Aitken or Mrs Haywood. “Jump Start” is great way of getting children used to the idea of moving up a grade and coping with a new teacher.

Of course, we’re especially looking forward to our new enrolments for 2015 coming along to have their first extended taste of “big school.” We’re so excited that we’re providing a free morning tea for them!
Canteen News
With our canteen assistant away for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday this week some extra help would be wonderful. Not just in canteen but at home too.

We have two catering jobs for lunches on Wednesday and Saturday. I therefore need 3 slices or cakes for Wednesday and 3 slices or cakes for Saturday. If you can help with these could you let Nikki know tomorrow – 67921925 and whether you can cook for Wednesday delivery or Friday/Saturday delivery. Please don’t slice them, we will do that.

I have a volunteer for Thursdays roster and Fridays roster but not for Wednesday. If you can help in canteen on any of these days even for an hour I would love to see you.

Canteen Roster

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Tuesday, 14th October</td>
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<td>Cassie Webster</td>
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<td>Monday, 20th October</td>
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Thank you
Kim Owens – Supervisor

White Cards
1st
Taylor Hanslow, Seth Fischer, Ashlyn Ritchie

Bronze Awards
Kaleb Milsom, Koby Gray, Travis Gibbs-Eulo, Ashton Smith, Luke Shields, Cooper Hall, Orlando Dams, Isabella Hackett, Zoe Sutton

Silver Awards
Alex Loder, Jorja Bakhuis, Lilly Williams, Miles Campbell, Maddison Leech, Laine McCauley, Chelsea Lysaght, Jason Dick, Rhani Fewtrell, Cilla Hamblin, Bronte Ciesiolkia, Eliza Weissen, Cody Sunderland, Millie Goulden, Ellen Alford, Richard Hill, Seth Van Bommel, Charlie North, Matthew Penberthy, Liam Wilson, Isabella Suckling, Chloe Large, Braedon Mason, Mark Dennis, Elijah McIntosh, Patrick Lindsay, Keira Bennett, Claudia Penberthy, Jye Anderson, Charlie Baker, Harley Petrovic, Lyneah Mason, Darcy Gleeson

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Girls State Softball Report

“I went to Sydney for the State Softball Championships with my team to represent North West. I absolutely loved playing in the carnival. My team improved each game. I actually won the team award for most improved player. One of my favourite parts would be when Isabelle was pitching and I was the catcher”.

Kira Manning

“3 weeks ago I was lucky enough to be part of the North West team playing in the state carnival. In most of the games I was a pitcher, it was pretty nerve racking going up against the big city teams. I was lucky enough to get some great strike outs. My favourite part was winning the coaches award for effort”.

Isabelle Howard-Phemister

“Representing NPS is an honour and a privilege. We would especially like to thank Mrs Tame & Mrs Hancock.”

Kira & Isabelle

Talk Like a Pirate Day

“Aye there me ‘earties, how much fun did we ‘ave on the last day of term?”

Talk like a Pirate Day on the last day of Term 3, proved to be far more entertaining and comical than we could have imagined! I am sure the visiting Waratah Cricketers believed us to be totally mad but the pleasure on the faces of the students was evidence enough to prove that impromptu performances by teachers require a little ‘madness’!

The day began with a full school assembly and the raising of a fabulous Jolly Roger Flag, which of course would not comply and had to be raised upside down, which meant we were ‘under siege ‘all day! This probably set the tone for the remainder of the day!

Children and teachers came dressed in their very best pirate outfits and were able to parade these as they ‘walked the plank’ down the middle of the assembly to the chant of “Walk the plank, walk the plank!” This was preceded by much light-hearted ‘pirate banter’ between the teachers and a cracking recital by Year 1 of a Pirate poem.

Following this Kindergarten gathered themselves, their hats, their swords and followed their gallant leader, Captain Jack Sparrow to the town library for a very special and exciting Pirate reading.

It was of no doubt that everyone enjoyed and participated in the fun day, with many Pirate related educational activities carried out during the day.

The Gold Coin Donation went towards our end of year SRC Fun Day.

Sue McLeish

No Fresh Fruit? No Worries!

Although fresh fruit or vegetables are the best choice for Church@School, your child can snack on canned fruit in natural juice or with no added sugar or dried fruit (DO NOT send fruit sticks, bars or rolls).

To save money, buy a large can of fruit and send to school in reusable containers. Good for the environment too!

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**Keep food cool**

Sandwiches can be frozen for up to a week and, if removed from the freezer in the morning, will thaw by lunchtime. Some nutritious sandwiches to freeze include those with fillings of cooked meats, baked beans, eggs, fish and cheese. Most fresh vegetables do not freeze well so put them on the sandwich when it’s packed in the lunch box.

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**Tree Lopping at NPS**

Following a tragic accident last year, all NSW public schools have had to undergo a tree audit. During Term 2, our trees were closely examined by a highly qualified tree surgeon. A follow-up report was sent to the school.

Consequently, some trees in our playground were marked to be trimmed back and a few earmarked to be cut down due to problems such as dry rot and hollowed out trunks etc.

Last week, a team of arborists removed the potentially dangerous trees. We plan to hire a bobcat and move a small fence and some unwanted dirt to help open up a little more playground space near the fixed equipment.

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**Author Signings & Books to Buy**

If you’d like to purchase a signed copy of one of these author’s great books, there will be an opportunity to do so on Wednesday. Price list outlined below:

- The World of Gryrm trilogy (hardcovers)
  - Allira's Gift: $19.95
  - Lords of Quibbitt: $19.95
  - Morgassa's Follow: $19.95
- The Jelindel Chronicles (quartet)
  - Dragonlinks: $24.95
  - Dragonfang: $24.95
  - Dragonsight: $24.95
  - Wardragon: $24.95
- The Maximus Black Files trilogy
  - Mole Hunt: $19.95
  - Dyson's Drop: $19.95
  - The Only Game in the Galaxy: $19.95
- Out of This World: $12.95
  - Swords of Quentaris: $14.95
  - Dragonlords of Quentaris: $14.95
  - Slaves of Quentaris: $14.95
  - The Spell of Undoing: $15.95
  - Vampires of Quentaris: $14.95
  - Trust Me (anthology): $24.95
  - Trust Me Two (anthology): $24.95
  - The Pranksters' Club: $9.95
  - The Slightly Skewed Life of Toby Chrysler: $24.95

Paul offers a 10% on these titles.

Marjory Gardner is bringing up a few copies of two picture books: 'Grandma's Place' and Grandpa's Place' (hardback $24, paperback $12) if anyone is interested.
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